

opc Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • JANUARY 2002

NBC's Brian Williams to Speak at Foundation Scholarship Luncheon

by Sonya K. Fry

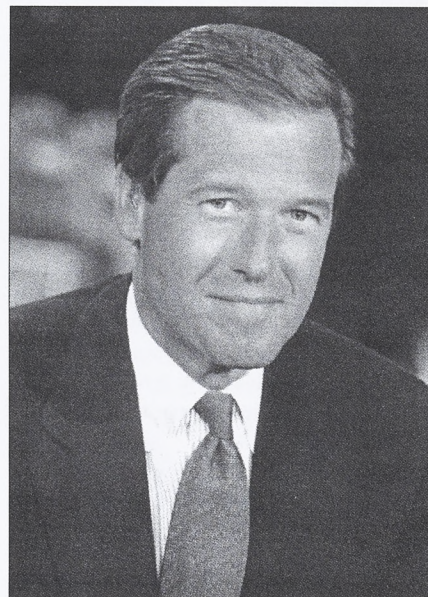
The OPC Foundation has judged its annual scholarship contest and is gearing up for the scholarship luncheon to be held at the Yale Club on Thursday, January 24, 2002 at noon.

Our featured speaker will be Brian Williams of NBC News who has been at the heart of the scramble by television news organizations to cover terrorism in the United States and the war in Afghanistan. He will talk about the tough judgment calls he and other television decision-makers have had to confront.

All eleven student winners have been notified and are making plans to be in New York to accept their \$2,000 scholarships. One of the winners responded from Kiev so we knew that we have reached a truly internationally-minded group. The essays from 120 students were demographically wide ranging. The Internet seems to have encouraged students from all around the country to apply. It has truly become a nationwide contest. HL Stevenson, who revived the Foundation and the scholarship, would be proud. Local journalism

schools dominated the group: four from Columbia Graduate School of Journalism and one from New York University. Other schools include City University in Bellevue, Washington; Indiana University, Wellesley; University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and two from the University of California at Berkeley.

The judging committee, headed by Bernie Gavzer, included John Corpron, Herb Dorfman, Fred Ferguson, (Continued on Page 10)



Brian Williams

AP Chief Says Terrorism Brings New Newsgathering Challenges

by Kevin McDermott and Norman A. Schorr

Freedom of the Press Committee

The September 11th attacks shook up numerous assumptions, including some about newsgathering. But nothing has changed about the fundamentals of the profession—or its dangers.

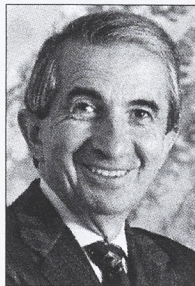
Louis D. Boccardi, president and CEO of the Associated Press, recently remarked that the 9/11 suicide bombings presented journalists with the challenge of deciding what information should be reported immediately and what might be delayed to save lives. Limited access to the facts made that decision more challenging.

"It remains the job of the free press to

report as fully and fairly as it knows how," Boccardi said, "and to do that in ways that properly balance all the other values that have to be considered—not the least of them national security."

Boccardi, who in 2000 received OPC's Lifetime Achievement Award, spoke at the World Press Freedom Committee's 15th Annual Harold W. Anderson lecture in Washington, D.C. The Overseas Press Club is an affiliate member of the committee. In the course of his remarks, the AP boss observed a distinction all too plain to members of OPC's Freedom of the Press Committee: reporters enjoy relative safety in regions where press freedom is either complete or totally absent. "The most dangerous places are those where concepts of free expression and democracy are still evolving," he said.

"A vigorous free press is a prerequisite to the emergence of stronger, (Continued on Page 8)



Louis Boccardi

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COVERING THE COVERAGE: The New War at Year's End

by Al Kaff

War on terrorism—deaths, a beating, prisoners, dangers, honors, press restrictions, big bucks, OPC members and an off-Broadway play.

Ulf Stroemberg, 42, a cameraman for Sweden's channel TV4 was fatally shot in the chest by masked robbers Nov. 27 in Taloqan, northern Afghanistan. He was the eighth journalist killed in Afghanistan since the Sept. 11 terrorism. Stroemberg was staying in a house with other Swedish journalists. Gunmen entered the house about 2 a.m., stole cameras, computers, money and even toothpaste, and then knocked on Stroemberg's bedroom door. When he opened it, he was hit by a single bullet. One of Stroemberg's roommates, **Bo Liden**, called his wife, a medical doctor, on a satellite telephone for directions to stop the cameraman's bleeding. A pickup truck took Stroemberg to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead. Swedish Prime Minister Goeran Persson, who had met the cameraman several times, issued a statement: "He was a skillful, exception-



Ulf Stroemberg

ally enthusiastic photographer. He was always intensely engaged in the work he was to carry out."

A school in Rome is being named for **Maria Grazia Cutuli**, 39, reporter for *Corriere della Sera* who was shot to death in the back during a road ambush in Afghanistan in November (December *Bulletin*). Also being named in her honor is a center for immigrants in Catania, Sicily, her hometown, and a newsroom at a journalism school in Milan, where her newspaper is published. Italian President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi said her death "fills my soul with an overwhelmingly deep grief." After she and three other journalists were fatally shot in the ambush, her newspaper ran "page after page of stories detailing her work and emphasizing her good looks." **Melinda Henneberger** reported in *The New York Times*. "It has published 18 different photographs of her—on assignment, at a dinner party and, with her dark hair pulled over one shoulder, writing one of her last articles. There have been poems, too, along with love notes from readers



Maria Grazia Cutuli

and letters from schoolchildren who want to grow up to be like her." Cutuli worked most of the time at a desk job and suffered health problems. But she always sought foreign assignments and spent vacations freelancing in Cambodia and South Africa.

With stones and fists, a crowd in a Pakistan village beat **Robert Fisk**, 55, a British correspondent for *The Independent* of London, Dec. 8 while he was traveling to the southern Afghanistan border. Many of the villagers were believed to be Afghan refugees, some of whom lost relatives in U.S. bombings in Afghanistan. Fisk suffered two deep gashes in his forehead, one in the back of his head and bruises on his back. Many foreign journalists have traveled the same road to Afghanistan, usually with a police escort.

Ken Hechtman, 32, a freelance Canadian reporter working for the weekly *Montreal Mirror*, was released in December after being held prisoner by the Taliban four days. He was detained after driving into southern Afghanistan from Pakistan, bearded and wearing traditional, loose-fitting Afghan clothing. The Taliban became suspicious because Hechtman arrived without Pakistani documents required to visit the border area and carried a satellite telephone and maps of the area. Mullah Aminullah, a Taliban official, said the Taliban was considering charges of spying but
(Continued on Page 3)

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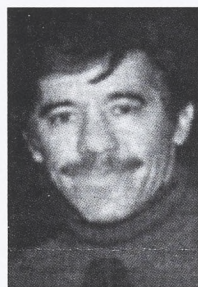
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relented during a meeting with Pakistani officials and Canadian diplomats.

Washington Post correspondent **Rajiv Chandrasekaran** was kicked out of Pakistan Dec. 7 when his visa expired. A letter cited "security implications." **Philip Bennett**, *Post* assistant managing editor for foreign news, noted that Chandrasekaran was born in the United States of Indian parents and said: "When journalists of Indian descent are singled out for this treatment, it raises a question" about Pakistan's commitment to press freedom. In Washington, Pakistani Embassy spokesman Asad Hayauddin denied ethnic motives, saying, "It's purely a case of an expired visa."

"WORSE THAN BEIRUT"

Correspondents commented on the dangers of working in Afghanistan. **Geraldo Rivera**, who left his \$5 million



Geraldo Rivera

job as a CNBC talk show host to report from Afghanistan for Fox News: "Being a war correspondent, it's always had the risks inherent in covering a conflict. It's not about fear so much as an anxiety that gnaws at you when you do your job. This [Afghanistan] is worse than Beirut, this is worse than Bosnia, it's worse than Colombia, it's worse than Kosovo.... [It's] an armed no-man's land, filled with murderous danger." **Elizabeth Palmer**, CBS News: "Because it's so very complex, the tribal affiliates and rivalries, it's hard to assess the risks. It's a desperate place with a lot of free guns. I feel very uneasy." **Bob Woodruff**, ABC

News: "Some of the crimes seem to be getting more and more random. Most of these deaths of journalists appear to be murders." In New York, **Ann Cooper**, executive director of the Committee to Protect Journalists, said, "[Afghanistan is] certainly one of the worst situations we've ever seen in such a short period of time."

After a stray U.S. bomb killed three American soldiers and wounded 19 near Kandahar in December, reporters and photographers in a Pentagon press pool were not allowed to interview the wounded, their doctors or troops involved in the rescue. Protests quickly followed. **Sandy Johnson**, AP's Washington bureau chief: "We think it's outrageous. This is huge news. American soldiers dead and wounded by friendly fire. What's the point of having reporters over there if they can't cover the news?"

Jill Abramson, *The New York Times* Washington bureau chief: "This was a gross abuse of the ground rules for the press pool. It is very difficult to understand what operational security issues would have been violated by allowing the reporters access to the efforts to recover and evacuate the wounded." A Pentagon spokesman conceded the pool reporters and photographers were unnecessarily restricted and promised more access in the future. In a letter to Washington bureau chiefs of major news organizations, Victoria Clarke, assistant U.S. Secretary of Defense for public affairs, wrote: "We owe you an apology. The last several days have revealed severe shortcomings in our preparedness to support news organizations in their efforts to cover U.S. military operations in Afghanistan."

In December, ABC News and CBS News shared the \$80,000 purchase price demanded for a videotape that showed CIA officer Johnny Michael Spann, 32, trying to interrogate John Walker, 20, an American Taliban fighter, in a prison at Mazar-i-Sharif. "The video was very interesting and newsworthy," **Sandy Genelius**, a spokeswoman for CBS



John Walker



Michael Spann

News, told *The New York Times*. "And because the price was so high, the dual purchase was discussed and decided upon." Shortly after the video was taped by an Afghan cameraman, Taliban prisoners overwhelmed their guards, grabbed their weapons and started an uprising. Spann and more than 200 Taliban prisoners were killed, and Walker was shot in the leg. Spann questioned Walker: "Where are you from?... Who brought you here?... What's your name?... Do you know the people here you're working with are terrorists, and killed other Muslims? There were several hundred Muslims killed in the bombing in New York City. Is that what the Quran teaches? I don't think so." Walker remained silent throughout the taped interview.

OPC MEMBERS IN AFGHANISTAN

Peter Arnett won a 1966 Pulitzer Prize for his AP reporting from the Vietnam War, helped put CNN on the international map by reporting from Baghdad on the U.S. bombing of Iraq during the Persian Gulf War and interviewed Osama bin Laden in 1997 (*December Bulletin*). But after Sept. 11, Arnett, 67, an OPC board member, was a war correspondent without a network. Until December. He approached several networks but found no takers until Broadcast News Networks (BNN) hired him to cover Afghanistan. BNN syndicates documentaries to U.S. networks including MSNBC and the Discovery Channel and is offering Arnett's coverage to networks in Germany, Australia, Britain and the United States.



Peter Arnett

Jim Rutenberg of *The New York Times* quoted Arnett: "I have covered lots of wars, and I feel I'm sort of good at it. On the other hand, I was basically fired by CNN, I was damaged goods, and, you know, it's not easy to get back in the game." Arnett left CNN in 1999 after the network retracted its report that U.S. military used nerve gas against

(Continued on Page 4)

Thank You IBM

IBM has donated five new computer units to the OPC. We owe former President Bill Holstein a debt of gratitude for asking IBM for this donation, and we are most grateful to Sidney Baker, Product Reviews Lab Manager at IBM in North Carolina, who made the donation. The OPC also purchased new modems so our upgraded computers are speedier and more reliable. Thank you Bill and thank you IBM.

Covering the Coverage...

(Continued from Page 3)

defectors in Laos during the Vietnam War. Arnett read the script on CNN, but he said he did not report the story. Quoting Arnett, *The Times* wrote "that sometimes authoritative news correspondents are essentially just mouthing words written by others."

OPC member **Nicholas Kristof** of *The New York Times* was given a one-year assignment to write twice-weekly columns on terrorism (December *Bulletin*), and his first piece was published Dec. 7 on the Op-Ed page. From Kabul, Kristof wrote: "So many foreign diplomats and journalists have swarmed into Kabul in the last couple of weeks that the main hotel, the Intercontinental, has a waiting list until about February.... The only foreigners not sweeping into Kabul so far are those from the American government. Diplomats from other key countries are in town to set up embassies, but American diplomats are conspicuously absent. The tardiness of the American diplomats is one of several signs that Washington risks repeating its mistake of

a decade ago, when it won the war against the Soviet invaders of Afghanistan and then betrayed the Afghans by walking away from them." Ten days after Kristof's column was published, the U.S. Embassy in Kabul was reopened for the first time since 1989. "We are here, and we are here to stay," James F. Dobbins, Washington's special envoy to Afghanistan, said.

UPI is rarely seen these days in U.S. newspapers. But **Arnaud de Borchgrave**, the wire service's top editor, landed a UPI dispatch from Pakistan in the Dec. 15 *New York Daily News*. Filling half a page and running under a banner headline, his dispatch reported that Taliban and Al Qaeda forces could escape easily from Afghanistan into Pakistan even though the Pakistan Army and helicopter gunships guard the border. OPC member De Borchgrave and a UPI team put on tribal clothes to visit border towns and villages along three miles of foothills on the Pakistan side of the Spin Ghar mountain range. With pictures and slogans, border tribes displayed their pro-Taliban and pro-Al Qaeda feelings, UPI reported. De Borchgrave wrote: "Tribal elders said that while the army had established interlocking fields of fire at four key mountain passes, it could not possibly check dozens of other routes invisible from the air.... Posters picturing Bin Laden were pinned to shutters and windows, and open-air markets displayed his picture on the sides of stalls. 'Kill America' was painted on the outer wall of an army fort."

In 1980, **Dan Rather** sneaked into Afghanistan wearing a Mujahedeen military uniform, dodged Soviet bullets and filed a report for CBS' "60 Minutes." On Nov. 30, with less secrecy, the OPC member and his producer, **Jim Murphy**, crossed into Afghanistan from Pakistan.

Wearing a windbreaker, Rather, 70, reported from Kabul through Dec. 5 for "CBS Evening News," "The Early Show" and "60 Minutes II."

NBC said **Tom Brokaw**, "NBC Nightly News" anchor and OPC member, put in a request to accompany U.S. troops



Peter Jennings

in Afghanistan but only if he were provided with exceptional access. ABC said it would not send **Peter Jennings**, anchor of "ABC World News Tonight." "We discovered during the Gulf War there are real

complications in having the anchor in one remote location when there are so many developments in so many places," **Jeffrey Schneider**, an ABC spokesman, was quoted by *The New York Times*.

When a football fan told Jennings he was not appreciated for his reporting on the war against terrorism, Jennings broadcast the unflattering comment. At a Dallas Cowboys football game late last year, Jennings was questioning fans on their reaction to current events. "Can you tell me about the mood in Dallas these days," Jennings asked a man, who replied, "Nobody likes you." The man called media reports on terrorism he had seen "unpatriotic and can't help the nation get back to business."

Sept. 11 inspired **Anne Nelson**, 47, director of the international program at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism, to write a play. Twelve days after the terrorist attacks, she sat for about five hours with a fire captain who needed help writing eulogies for eight of his men who died in the carnage. "I had lived in New York practically all my life and

had never thought about what it was that firefighters did in firehouses," she told *The New York Times*. Jim Simpson, a director who founded Flea, a small theater in lower Manhattan, encouraged Nelson to write a play about firefighters, and she did in nine days, writing "The Guys" after midnight while her two children slept. The 90-minute play ran at the Flea in December. Before becoming a professor and a director of the Committee to Protect Journalists, Nelson reported on war and human rights abuses in Central America for U.S. and Canadian publications. She is author of a book about a political killing in Puerto Rico.



Anne Nelson

Alfred Friendly Fellowships

The Alfred Friendly Press Fellowships (AFPF) announces its annual competition "open to mid-career professional print journalists from developing and transitional countries. Approximately 12 reporters and editors will be selected to spend six months in American newsrooms as reporters."

Applicants must be currently employed journalists with "an excellent command of written and spoken English, early to mid-career status (between 25 and 35) with at least three years experience as a print journalist." Applications are due February 1, 2002 for the program beginning next June.

For information or an application visit AFPF's website at www.press-fellowships.org or contact AFPF at 2000 L Street N.W., Suite 200 Washington DC 20036-4997. Phone (202) 416-1691. Fax (202) 416-1595. E-Mail afpf@aol.com



Dan Rather



PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

ATCHISON, Kansas:

From her home in Alexandria, Virginia, OPC founding member **Fay Gillis Wells** has visited this Missouri River town annually each of the past 30 years to honor pioneers of flight. She was back in Atchison in December to plan this summer's celebration at the International Forest of Friendship, where names of more than 1,100 aviation and aerospace notables from the United States and 35 other nations are inscribed. Wells and her colleagues in Ninety-Nines, an organization of women pilots, established the Forest in Atchison because it is the birthplace of Fay's friend, Amelia Earhart. Active as ever, Fay, 93, told the *Atchison Daily Globe*: "Age is a matter of mind. You're as old as you want to be."



Fay Gillis Wells

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Virginia:

Leon Daniel, 70, former UPI correspondent and editor in Asia, Europe and Washington, and his partner, **Judith Paterson**, a journalism professor at the University of Maryland, are traveling in Cambodia, Laos and Thailand during January. "I've never been to Angkor Wat so we are going there, and Judy will be talking to journalism students in Laos," Daniel, a Vietnam War correspondent, told "People" before they left on their trip.

Meanwhile in Hartford, Connecticut, after three court appearances, **Lillian Daniel**, Leon's daughter, and four other church ministers were sentenced to perform 12 hours of community service for disorderly conduct during a demonstration outside Governor John Rowland's office in support of unionizing nursing home workers. They were arrested by state troopers last May (July/August *Bulletin*). Lillian, minister at the Church of the Redeemer in New Haven, told "People" in December that, ironically, she performed her community service

with the same organization that conducted the May demonstration, the Connecticut Center for a New Economy. Lillian is the Center's president.

HARARE: A new law proposed by the Zimbabwe government would for the most part bar foreign journalists from working in this southern African nation. The proposed law, which must be submitted to Parliament, would allow only Zimbabwe citizens to work as correspondents for foreign newspapers and TV stations. In November, the government accused eight reporters, most of whom work for foreign news organizations including AP, of "the obscene misrepresentations of facts." From Johannesburg, OPC member **Rachel L. Swarns** of *The New York Times*, quoted **Sydney Masamvu** of the Zimbabwe Union of Journalists: "The only good thing about the bill is that it does help foreign governments understand our repeated arguments that Zimbabwe is now effectively under fascist rule. All it seeks to do is to give the government the green light to weed out those not wanted in the journalism profession."

HONG KONG: Citing a collapse in advertising, AOL Time Warner in November stopped publishing *Asiaweek*, circulation 120,000, and 80 employees of the English-language news magazine lost their jobs. Dow Jones, which publishes *Far Eastern Economic Review*, circulation 99,000 and also a weekly English-language news magazine, combined editorial staffs of the magazine and *The Asian Wall Street Journal*, cutting 36 jobs. Two Hong Kong English-language dailies dismissed employees—18 at the *South China Morning Post* and 100 at *Hong Kong iMail*. **Mark Landler** of *The New York Times* reported: "The cutbacks mean more that despondent people at the bar of Hong Kong's Foreign Correspondents' Club. They signal the waning of a tradition of lively, independent magazines that cover Asia with the familiarity of a native but the critical distance of an outsider." *Asiaweek* was founded in 1975 by two former *Economic Review* writers, **Michael O'Neill**, a New Zealander, and **T. J. S. George**, an Indian, and was purchased by *Time* in 1985. *The Review* was founded in 1946, and Dow Jones acquired majority control of the magazine in 1987.

(Continued on Page 6)

Welcome to Our New Members

Reginald Chua

Editor
The Asian Wall Street Journal
Hong Kong
active overseas

Elizabeth R. Cullum

Managing Editor
Power Trade Media
Phoenix, Arizona
active non resident

Thomas Fischermann

Economic Correspondent
Die Zeit
active resident

Laurie Garrett

Science & Medical Writer
Newsday
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Director
AP-Wide World Photos Japan
Tokyo
active overseas

Ric Kirkland

Managing Editor
Fortune magazine
active resident

Damaso Reyes

Writer
Amsterdam News
Indonesia
active overseas

Peter James Spielmann

Editor, International Desk
Associated Press
active resident

Michael Williams

Tokyo Bureau Chief
The Wall Street Journal
active overseas

ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

George Bookman, chair
Elinor Griest
Marshall Loeb
Dwight Sargent

PEOPLE

(Continued from Page 5)

KAMAKURA, Japan: In December, **John Roderick**, who has worked a lifetime as a foreign correspondent, wrote in a note to "People" that the *OPC Bulletin* is "the most valuable source I know of news about our friends overseas." Roderick spent 39 years with AP and became the wire service's chief China watcher—correspondents who covered the Middle Kingdom from Tokyo and Hong Kong when the Communist nation was closed to them.



John Roderick

In a November interview in Tokyo's daily *Japan Times*, Roderick, 87, told **Vivienne Kenrick** he first encountered China when he was a 13-year-old caddie at a Maine golf course: "One of the players had just returned from a visit to Shanghai. He showed me photographs of young Chinese being beheaded. They were executed by the Nationalist forces of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek in the Shanghai massacre of 1927." Roderick joined AP in 1937 and during World War II served in China with the Office of Strategic Services, precursor of the CIA. After the war, he rejoined AP in Chungking, covered the China civil war, Arab-Israeli strife during Israel's infancy, the French war in Indochina and finally a China watcher in Hong Kong and Tokyo.

KILLARNEY HEIGHTS, Australia: For many years, **Russell Spurr**, 79, was a correspondent in Asia for U.S., British and Hong Kong publications and television, and he wrote two histories set in World War II and the Korean War. Since then, he has suffered two strokes, learned to walk with a frame and gradually graduated to a stick. Last year wife **Rosemary** made a solo trip back to their old Hong Kong haunts to visit one of their sons. While she was away, Russell checked into an old folks home where he found conversation limited. In a Christmas letter, Spurr reported: "I found myself sharing a room with an Estonian who would suddenly talk to me overnight in German. The staff seemed to have escaped from the Foreign Legion. There were Russians, Lithuanians and Poles. The male nurse who bathed me most days was a Bolivian Indian."

MIAMI, Florida: The Inter American Press Association last year presented its annual Grand Prize for Press Freedom to Peruvian newspapers *El Comercio*, *La República* and *La Industria de Trujillo*, and the magazine *Caretas*. The awards committee, chaired by **Saturnino Herrero Mitjans** of *Clarín*, a Buenos Aires newspaper, said the four publications resisted harassment, attacks and intimidation for their criticism of the Fujimori government.

NEW YORK: **Lauren Weber** used the \$2,000 OPC Foundation Scholarship she won last year to help finance a trip to Paris, Brussels and Antwerp, where she reported on her journalistic specialty, the diamond industry. "I interviewed about 20 diamond dealers from Israel, India, Belgium, all over the world," she wrote in a November report to Sonya Fry, OPC executive director, after returning to New York. In Antwerp, Lauren handled several assignments for *Rapaport Diamond Report*, a trade magazine that published three of her Antwerp stories in December. She had lunch with OPC member **Jonathan Kapstein**, who "was extremely generous and helpful, insisting that I call my parents from his office." Two months after winning her scholarship, Weber landed an article on New York diamond dealers on the front business page of a Sunday *New York Times*. She told Fry: "Thanks once again for the OPC scholarship, which gave me the opportunity for this wonderful trip."

Anthony Lewis, 74, who started his *New York Times* column "Abroad at Home" while based in London, retired from the newspaper in December. In his final *Times* column published Dec. 15, Lewis wrote: "Today again [after earlier wars] fear threatens reason. Aliens are imprisoned for months on the flimsiest of grounds. The attorney general of the United States moves to punish people on the basis of secret evidence, the Kafkaesque hallmark of tyranny.... I am an optimist about America. But how can I maintain that optimism after Vietnam, after the murder of so many who fought for civil rights, after the Red scare and after the abusive tactics planned by government today? I



Anthony Lewis

can because we have regretted our mistakes in the past, relearning every time that no ruler can be trusted with arbitrary power. And I believe we will again."

In a *Times* interview, Lewis gave his view of a columnist: "As a columnist, you have this illusion that you're writing to change the world. But it is only an illusion. You may call people's attention to something. You may save some individuals. You hope to give people some insights into things."

Lewis became *The Times* London bureau chief in 1964 and started writing "Abroad at Home" from London in 1969. Since 1973, he has lived in Boston while continuing his column. Lewis first worked for *The Times* in its Sunday department, 1948-1952. He then joined the *Washington Daily News* as a general assignment reporter, returning to *The Times* in 1955 to cover the Supreme Court, Justice Department and other legal stories. He won two Pulitzer Prizes in Washington, one while with the *Daily News* and one with *The Times*.

A new daily newspaper is scheduled to start publishing this year under the name *The New York Sun*, reviving the title of a daily that was founded in 1833 and merged with *The New York World Telegram* in 1950. Editor-in-chief of the new *Sun* will be **Seth Lipsky**, a former editor at the Asia, European and U.S. editions of *The Wall Street Journal*. In 2000, Lipsky resigned as editor of the *Forward*, the Jewish weekly he founded in 1990,

Peter R. Weitz Prizes

The German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF) is accepting applications for the third annual Peter R. Weitz Prizes for "the best reporting on European and Transatlantic affairs in American newspapers and magazines." The senior award is worth \$10,000. A \$5,000 prize for American journalists 35 years old and younger is also presented.

The entry deadline is February 28, 2002. Entry forms may be obtained on the GMF website: www.gmfus.org or you can contact Julianne Smith at (202) 238-4003 for more information.

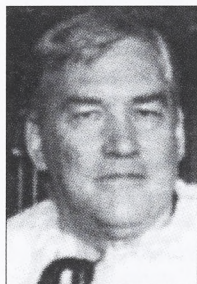
The Desert Fox

Geraldo Rivera, here caught by your sharp-eyed cartoonist, shaves off his mustache and escapes to Pakistan



when he came under fire from the paper's owners for its conservative bent. Second in command at *The Sun* will be **Ira Stoll**, a former *Forward* staffer who operates a daily Internet critique of *The New York Times*, smartertimes.com, that says *The Times* "has grown complacent, slow and inaccurate."

The investment group starting *The Sun* includes **Conrad Black**, owner of *The Chicago Sun-Times* and London's *Daily Telegraph* and *Sunday Telegraph*. **Daniel W. Colson**, vice chairman of Black's company, Hollinger International, said *The Sun* will "be very up-market, certainly neoconservative in its ideological views," *The New York Times* reported. *The Sun* plans to hire 25 or more editorial staffers and publish Mondays through Fridays. To accept a British title, Black renounced his Canadian citizenship last year and became Lord Black of Crossharbour.



Conrad Black

The Committee to Protect Journalists presented its Freedom Awards at a November dinner to **Geoff Nyarota**, editor of *The Daily News*, Zimbabwe's only independent daily, who was arrested twice last year in Harare on various charges (December *Bulletin*); **Horacio Verbitsky** for his reporting on government corruption and against restrictive press laws in Argentina; and **Mazen Dana**, Reuters, for his photography in the West Bank city of Hebron. Also honored was **Jiang Weiping**, who could not attend the presentation because he is in prison in China for his reporting. An award for lifetime achievement went



(L to R) Horacio Verbitsky, Mazen Dana and Geoff Nyarota

to **Joseph Lelyveld**, former executive editor of *The New York Times*. Attended by more than 800 including OPC members **Seymour Topping** and **Walter Cronkite**, the dinner in the Waldorf-

(Continued on Page 8)



Seymour Topping and Joseph Lelyveld



Walter and Betsy Cronkite

PEOPLE

(Continued from Page 7)

Astoria hotel raised \$1.18 million for the Committee's work.

The 63rd annual Maria Moors Cabot Prizes for Latin American reporting were awarded last October by Columbia University to **Mónica González**, a Chilean writer and journalist; **Jorge Ramos Avalos**, Univisión TV host; **Clóvis Rossi**, *Folha de São Paulo* reporter; and **Sebastian Rosella**, *The Los Angeles Times*.

Wendi Deng, 34, wife of **Rupert Murdoch**, 70, gave birth Nov. 19 to a daughter, Grace Helen Murdoch, their first child. Deng and Murdoch met in Hong Kong when she was a vice president of Murdoch's Star TV, an Asia network. They were married in 1999 aboard Murdoch's yacht in New York Harbor (July 1999 *Bulletin*).

Marty Lederhandler, AP's senior photographer, retired in December after 65 years with the wire service, AP's

AP CHIEF ON TERRORISM

(Continued from Page 1)

healthier, more democratic institutions," Boccardi said. "But until those institutions are in place, a free press is also an endangered press."

"We in the news business are finding out that we must seek a new balance," Boccardi pointed out, "between our vigorous advocacy of open government and our understanding as responsible citizens that the nation is now in a fight in which information and openness can be weapons against us."

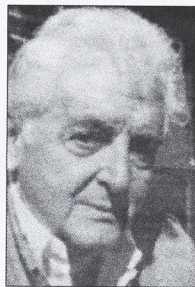
"That our tasks—never really simple in a complicated world—have become immensely more difficult since September 11," Boccardi declared, "does not excuse us from the duty to perform them."

"There were already armed conflicts, contested borders and threatened regimes, shifting lines of power, struggles for new democracy—all with the potential for peril to the free flow of information all before September 11," Boccardi said.

In 2001, the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee lodged over 100 protests with governments around the world on behalf of colleagues in jeopardy. We expect an equally busy 2002.

longest serving staff member. He joined AP as a messenger in 1936 and has covered the United Nations since 1947. UN Secretary General Kofi Annan said Lederhandler covered 50 sessions of the General Assembly, "making friends at all levels, and no enemies at all!" A U.S. armed service photographer during World War II, Lederhandler sent film by carrier pigeon during the Allied invasion of Normandy. Several birds became disoriented and never made it back to England. Some of his film fell into German hands and the pictures appeared in German newspapers with distorted captions and Lederhandler's credit line.

During his 50-year career, photojournalist and new OPC member **Harry Benson**, 71, has covered wars in Vietnam, Somalia, Bosnia, Soviet-occupied Afghanistan and the Persian Gulf. He told **Celia McGee** of New York's *Daily News*: "Photographers should be like spies. I've always worked alone. You make your decisions alone. The photographers I know who were killed were in packs, and usually over nothing." A collection of his photographs, "Harry Benson: Fifty Years in Pictures," was published by Harry N. Abrams to accompany last year's November-December exhibition of his work at New York's Staley-Wise Gallery.



Harry Benson

OVERLAND PARK, Kansas: **Shirley Christian** stayed on top of breaking news when she was an AP, *New York Times* and *Miami Herald* correspondent in New York, Latin America and Washington. But not in 2001. In a Christmas note, she wrote: "This has been one year when I've been happy to have my head buried in events of 200 years ago—for my book research!" Shirley, who won the 1981 Pulitzer Prize for international reporting, is working on a book about the Chouteau family, French fur traders who founded outposts in the U.S. Middle West and outfitted the 1804-1806 Lewis and Clark expedition (February 2000 *Bulletin*).

SINGAPORE: **Andrew Priest**, 31, is Reuters new editor-in-chief for coverage of Asian financial markets. Shortly



Genevieve Wilkinson and Andrew Priest

before they moved to Singapore, Priest and **Genevieve Wilkinson**, 30, were married Dec. 1 at St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church in New York City, where she was a Reuters reporter and he was a deputy Reuters editor.

SYDNEY: Brazilian photojournalist **Jorge Bechara** moved from Rio de Janeiro to São Paulo and then outside São Paulo "because crime was getting worse as the economy declined." Then after moving to Sydney three years ago to handle assignments for Brazilian newspapers and magazines, he commented: "One of the things that attracted me to Australia, and Sydney in particular, was my belief that this was a place where you could walk the streets securely." But walking home in Sydney's Bondi Junction one night last year, a car with three men pulled up beside him, the driver asked for a cigarette and another man wearing a ski mask stepped out and walked towards him. When Bechara started to run, the man stabbed him in the back, leaving a two-inch-deep wound that required 10 stitches to close. But Bechara got home with his large camera bag intact.



Jorge Bechara

New members of the Foreign Correspondents' Association of Australia & South Pacific include **Victoria Thieberger**, **Michael Christie**, **Michael Smith** and **Ian Chua**, all Reuters; and **Winsor Dobbins**, freelance.

TOKYO: OPC member **Jim Brooke's** arrival last August to replace **Calvin Sims** and **Stephanie Strom** in *The New York Times* bureau reduced its Tokyo staff from three to two correspondents. But not quite. Jim's wife, **Elizabeth Heilman Brooke**, is freelancing for *The*



Jim Brooke

Times, concentrating on the arts and culture. Bureau chief is **Howard French**. Sims and French also are OPC members. Sims and Strom returned to the United States (September *Bulletin*).



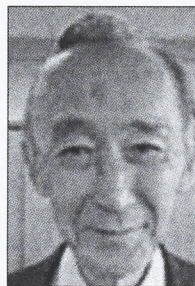
Elizabeth Brooke

◆ **Jim Brooke** is a new member of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan (FCCJ). Other new members: **Myron Belkind** and **Eric Prideaux**, both AP; **Alan Brender**, *Chronicle of Higher Education* and *The South China Morning Post*; **Motoko Naito**, UPI; **Jason Thomas Testar**, freelance; **Rebecca MacKinnon**, CNN; **Peter van Juijsenburg**, Netherlands Press Association and the Dutch financial daily *Financieele Dagblad*; and **Tomohide Okuno**, Kyodo News, formerly Kyodo correspondent in Manila and Rio de Janeiro.

◆ **Lisa Takeuchi Cullen** returned last year to her native Japan as a *Time* magazine correspondent. In a December article in a Sunday issue of *The New York Times*, she wrote: "While growing up [in Japan] I pulled every excuse I could to avoid *onsen* [public bath] excursions.... The horror of everybody staring at my everything—or, in my case, the lack thereof—brought on fake fevers or unusually pressing homework." But Lisa went on to describe her present fondness for soaking and steaming in an *onsen* and its place in the recession: "Maybe the stressful business of being an adult made me realize there is nothing more therapeutic than a good hot bath.... In an effort to survive a crippling recession, many hot springs resorts offer a bath packaged with a lavish lunch for a reasonable price." Lisa has been a *Time*, Inc. staffer for five years, writing for *Money* magazine for four years and then *Time*, and a contributor to *The New York Times*.

◆ The FCCJ has awarded life membership to **Sen Nishiyama**, 90, who in the 1970s interpreted for Japanese speakers at Club professional lunches. He also pro-

vided simultaneous interpretation of NASA broadcasts for Japan Broadcasting Company (NHK). Born in the United States, Nishiyama was a student in Japan when World War II broke out. He spent his career with Sony.



Sen Nishiyama

VLADIVOSTOK, Russia: In his second trial in a case that has dragged on for four years, **Grigory Pasko**, a former Russian naval journalist, was sentenced on Dec. 25 to four years in prison on charges of passing state secrets to journalists in Japan. But the three-judge military court reduced his sentence by the 20 months he already has spent in jail. The charges involved Pasko's reports to Japan's NHK TV network that the Russian Navy dumped nuclear wastes in the Sea of Japan. Pasko, 39, was arrested in 1997, convicted of abusing his authority as a naval officer but acquitted on treason charges. But in 2000, Russia's Supreme Court canceled the treason acquittal and ordered a new trial before a military tribunal (November *Bulletin*). Ivan Pavlov, Pasko's defense lawyer, said the charges were fabricated by the military. While a navy captain, Pasko reported for *Boyevaya Vakhta* (*Battle Watch*), the Russian Pacific Fleet's newspaper, and earned about \$300 a month as a stringer for a Japanese newspaper and NHK.

WASHINGTON: Late last year, **Donald E. Graham**, chairman and chief executive of the Washington Post Company, was appointed to the additional post of co-chairman of *The International Herald Tribune*, succeeding his mother, OPC member **Katharine Graham**, who died last year. The other *IHT* chairman is OPC member **Arthur Ochs Sulzberger**, chairman emeritus of the New York Times Company. Published in Paris, *The International Herald Tribune* is owned by *The Post* and *The Times*.

◆ Freedom Forum has closed its overseas offices in London, Buenos Aires, Hong Kong and Johannesburg after it lost 30 percent of its \$1 billion stock market investment. The Inter American Press Association's *News* reported: "Freedom

Forum President **Charles Overby** said that in the past two years the non-political organization had lost nearly \$300 million in assets." The Forum maintains libraries and museums relating to the press and sponsors programs on media problems. Overby, an OPC member, said the Forum foundation will concentrate on moving its headquarters from Arlington, Virginia, to Washington. The Forum's First Amendment Center in New York was closed last year and moved to Washington (December *Bulletin*).

◆ **Linda Wertheimer**, an anchor on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" the past 13 years, left the news magazine program in January to travel the world as the network's first senior national correspondent. Wertheimer, 58, joined NPR in 1971 after working for BBC in London.



Linda Wertheimer

IN MEMORY

Stefan Heym, 88, a Marxist-Leninist novelist and newspaper writer, died Dec. 17 while on a lecture tour in Israel. A Jew born in Germany, he fled to Czechoslovakia after Hitler came to power in 1933. During the 1930s, he wrote articles for Communist publications in Prague and Moscow, later moving to New York to become editor of *Deutsches Volksecho*, a German-language, anti-Nazi weekly. He served with a U.S. Army psychological warfare unit in France during World War II, speaking German over a loudspeaker to urge Wehrmacht troops to surrender.



Stefan Heym

He was a founding editor of Munich's *Neue Zeitung*, the first newspaper in the U.S. Occupation Zone. He returned to New York, but in 1951 went back to Europe, settling in East Germany where, in protest to the U.S. role in the Korean War, he renounced his American citizenship and returned his Army decorations to Washington. Born **Helmut Flieg**, he wrote more than a dozen historical and

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PEOPLE

(Continued from Page 10)

political novels under the pen name Stefan Heym.

◆
David Astor, 89, former editor of *The Observer* of London who came to oppose his family's appeasement of Nazi Germany, died Dec. 7 in London. While studying at Oxford University, Astor met Adam von Trott zu Solz, an aristocratic German who opposed Hitler and who was hanged for his part in the 1944 plot to assassinate the German leader. Von Trott persuaded Astor to oppose appeasement policies favored by the Astor family and other members of the Cliveden Set. During World War II, Astor joined the Royal Marines but devoted time to improving *The Observer*, which his grandfather, **William Waldorf Astor**, bought in 1911. David Astor was sent into occupied France, where he was wounded while serving as liaison with the resistance, receiving the Croix de Guerre. Editor of *The Observer* from 1948-1975, Astor once defined the newspaper's philosophy as "trying to do the opposite of what Hitler would have done," **Paul Lewis** reported in *The New York Times*. During his editorship, *The Observer* published the full text of Khrushchev's 26,000-word denunciation of Stalin, championed Nelson Mandela's fight against South Africa's apartheid, supported decolonization and opposed the death penalty.

◆
Laurie Johnston, 87, a World War II correspondent and later a *New York Times* reporter, died in her Honolulu home Dec. 7 of pancreatic cancer. Until a



Laurie Johnston quite frail but wearing an 'I Love New York' T-shirt," her daughter, Elisa W. Johnston, said. During World War II, Laurie reported for Reuters from U.S. Navy headquarters in Pearl Harbor. After the war, she joined *Newsweek's* international news department and became a New York City reporter for *The Times* in 1949, retiring in 1984. In 1980, Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism awarded her the Meyer Berger Award for distinguished reporting, citing her "consistently warm and perceptive glimpses of the little and large dramas of New York." She wrote the 1953 biography "Elizabeth Enters: The Story of a Queen" [Scribners]. In 1939, she married **Richard W. Johnston**, also a WWII correspondent who became executive editor of *Sport Illustrated*. He died in 1981.

◆
Edith Schwartz Capa, 88, wife of international photographer **Cornell Capa**, died Nov. 21 in her New York City home. Edith Schwartz and Capa, both born in Budapest, were married in 1940, and for more than 30 years she accompanied him around the world on his assignments for *Life* and Magnum photo agency. In New York's International Center of Photography, founded by

few weeks before her death, she was at her Greenwich Village home in New York City. "She spent her last few days walking around the World Trade Center site and arrived in Honolulu

Cornell in 1974, she organized and maintained the negatives and archives of her husband and his brother, the late **Robert Capa** for whom an OPC award is named. Robert, who gained fame for his photos of the Spanish Civil War and World War II, was killed in Indochina in 1954. *The New York Times* called Edith "a den mother to hundreds of photographers."

◆
Gregoire (Greg) C. R. B. MacArthur, 53, member of the family that awards genius grants to people in various careers, died of a heart attack Nov. 18 in his New York City home. Survivors include his brother, OPC board member **John MacArthur**, publisher of *Harper's Magazine*. Born in Paris, Greg started his career as a reporter for Chicago's City News bureau and later reported from France and North Africa for AP. He returned to the United States in 1984 upon the death of his father, **Roderick MacArthur**, a Chicago businessman and philanthropist, to help look after family interests. He was a director of the J. Roderick MacArthur Foundation, established by his father to further social justice and civil rights. Greg established an organization backing Ralph Nader and the Green Party in the 2000 presidential election. Its newspaper ads sought to reassure voters that "voting for a candidate who can't win is the smartest thing you'll ever do. And don't worry. A vote for Nader is not a vote for Bush." In 1987, Greg founded a London-based group known as Article 19, the International Center on Censorship.

◆
Raymond E. Dix, 92, president of the Inter American Press Association (IAPA) 1975-1976 and a former Ohio newspaper publisher, died July 21. His son, **R. Victor Dix**, was quoted in the *IAPA News*: "Probably the greatest honor that my father received was to be elected president of the Inter American Press Association. He learned Spanish in order to communicate better with journalists in Latin America and he thought that the United States should pay more attention to those countries, because they were going to play an important role in our hemisphere." Member of a prominent Ohio newspaper family, Dix was editor and publisher of *The Daily Record* of Wooster, until retiring in 1985, succeeded by his son Victor. In 1984, Raymond Dix was awarded the John S. Knight Prize for distinguished service to journalism.

FOUNDATION LUNCHEON

(Continued from Page 1)

Catherine Hemlepp, Foundation President Bill Holstein, Ed Jackson, Felice Levin, Josephine Lyons, Robert Solby and Sam Summerlin. They spent the better part of December 12th in the Board Room reading and choosing the winners.

The guest speaker for the Foundation Scholarship Luncheon, Brian Williams, has his own news program, "The News with Brian Williams" on MSNBC that is also re-broadcast on NBC's financial news network, CNBC. In addition, Williams is a permanent substitute anchor of "NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw." If you tune into any

NBC news programming anytime of day or night you may find Brian Williams at the helm.

Brian Williams was NBC's Chief White House correspondent from 1994-1996 during the Clinton presidency and he was the only television news correspondent to accompany three US presidents—Clinton, Bush and Carter—to Yitzhak Rabin's funeral in Israel. Williams began his broadcast career in Pittsburgh, Kansas and has won the prestigious Emmy award several times.

The luncheon price is \$50 each for OPC members and one guest while the non-member fee will be \$75. Tables will be sold for \$2,000 and \$5,000 all to benefit the scholarship fund.

NEW BOOKS

(Continued from Page 12)

FitzGerald "has a gentler story to tell, of a Communist country where people burn paper cell phones as offerings to their ancestors....[In Cross' photographs] tradition and modernity cheerfully collide: snakes curl in a bottle of rice alcohol slowly pickling into wine, while elsewhere a smeary-eyed Asian woman on a giant red billboard coos over her Coca-Cola. This collection returns us to a place of historical reckoning, and, in its careful observations of the land and the people, it documents the daily miracle of continuing."

EUROPE

• Jan Morris, 75, has lived an exotic life as both James and Jan. Half Welsh and half English, **James Morris** was a British soldier in 1946 when he first visited Trieste. In the early 1970s, James underwent a sex-change operation and became Jan. Over the years, Morris has traveled the world and written 40 books, the latest "Trieste and the Meaning of Nowhere" [New York: Simon & Schuster, and London: Faber and Faber].



Jan Morris

She talked about her life at dinner at the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Hong Kong, another city she has written about: "I wanted to use a city as a medium to explore myself really and to consider what conclusions I reached in life....The city I have chosen, Trieste, has puzzled and fascinated me all my life. I have called the book 'Trieste and the Meaning of Nowhere.' I think you will agree it's a very good title. It's fair and enigmatic and nobody knows what it means including me!"

Morris told Club members why "Trieste" probably will be her last book: "I am just fed up with the public aspect of publishing books. I have got fed up with Literary Festivals. I am fed up with publishers...with critiques...with literary luncheons, not literary dinners, of course!"

• OPC member **David Hoffman**, a former *Washington Post* correspondent in Jerusalem and Moscow and now the paper's foreign editor, writes about Russia's crony capitalism in "The Oligarchs: Wealth and Power in the New



David Hoffman

Russia" [New York: PublicAffairs]. He focuses on six men. "Before perestroika, these men were normal Soviet citizens," the publisher writes. "But as Communism loosened, they found gaps in the economy and reaped huge fortunes by getting their hands on fast money....The state was auctioning off its own assets to the highest bidder. The tycoons go on wild borrowing sprees, taking billions of dollars from gullible western leaders.... When the ruble finally collapses and Russia defaults, the tycoons try to save themselves by hiding their assets and running for cover."

• For the last six years, **Yuliya Latynina**, 35, has traveled Russia writing news articles about an economy in free fall that have won her awards for best business journalism. She also has written five novels including "Stag Hunting," a story about the takeover of a Siberian metal plant in the mid-1990s. **Sabrina Tavernise** of *The New York Times* reports that, if you can read Russian, you will find in her books a "modern-day Russia: a lawless land with a dilapidated central government controlled by feudal lords and their bandit armies. Her Russia is lurid and brutal, a place where the local police receive their wages from business moguls, sex with the boss is obligatory for secretaries, and nuclear scientists subsist as hunters after months without salaries." The author lives with her mother, a literary critic, and her father, a poet, in Peredelkino, an old writers' community just outside Moscow. *The Times* correspondent wrote that Latynina "by wrapping fiction around facts and real people, she can tell the real story behind Russia's often misleading appearance."



Yuliya Latynina

NORTH AMERICA

• **Ward Just** covered the Vietnam War for *The Washington Post*, won an OPC citation and wrote 12 novels. In "Lowell Limpett and Two Stories" [New York: PublicAffairs], Just discusses his experience writing a play. He was

inspired by "La Contrebasse," a one-character play in French involving a musician and his double bass that he and his wife saw at Theatre des Arts-Hebertot in Paris in 1991. Just does not speak French. But in Parisian cafes, he "listened to conversations, inventing my own translations.... As I did in cafes, I begin to supply my own translation [of the play]. Just as suddenly, the musician and his double bass vanished. In their places appeared a newspaper reporter and his typewriter."



Ward Just

...The reporter seemed to have an affectionate relationship with the machine; it was his career that was going to hell." In four days, Just wrote a play set "probably" in Cincinnati, Ohio: "Really, all I had to do was transcribe what I had written in my head during the 90-minute reverie in the Theatre des Arts-Hebertot....I put into it all I had ever known or heard about newspaper reporters reaching the end of their one-way street, all seen through the lens of my own newspaper experience of decades before."

IWMF Courage Awards

The International Women's Media Foundation (IWMF) is seeking nominations for its annual Courage in Journalism Award for women journalists "demonstrating extraordinary strength of character in pursuing their craft under difficult or dangerous circumstances—physical danger, official secrecy or oppression, political pressure, or other professionally intimidating obstacles."

The IWMF said the deadline for nominations is March 15, 2002 and "up to three recipients" will be honored.

For information contact: Amy Johnson, Director of Programs, International Women's Media Foundation, 1726 M Street NW, Suite 1002, Washington, DC 20036. Tel: (202) 496-1992. Fax: (202) 496-1977. E-Mail: ajohnson@iwmf.org

New Books

GLOBAL

• While an International News Service and later ABC News correspondent, **Jack Casserly** saw soldiers up close during wars in Korea, Lebanon, Algeria and Vietnam. He also reported from Rome and Washington, worked for the Hearst organization in New York City, was an OPC member for some 20 years and wrote five non-fiction books including biographies of the Hearst and Scripps publishing families and two novels. His eighth book, the novel "Invisible Wounds" [Honolulu, Los Angeles, Chicago: VCA Publishing] deals with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). After a troubled childhood, beaten by his father, Casserly's central character, Daniel Dunn, serves in the French Foreign Legion in Algeria, fights in Vietnam with the U.S. Marines and murders civilians in both countries. Finally Daniel's mother and a young Italian girl try to bring understanding between him and his father.



Jack Casserly

Retired U.S. Army Colonel **Dan Biondi** was 8th U.S. Army news chief when Casserly arrived in Korea. In the preface to Casserly's latest book, Biondi

comments: "'Invisible Wounds' is a book that only someone as qualified as Jack Casserly could write. His exposure to war in Korea and Vietnam—living with the men and women who fought those conflicts—resulted in his constant factual reporting....'Invisible Wounds' reflects Jack's Catholic faith and his family, a commitment to God and loved ones."

Casserly, 74, told the *Bulletin*: "I interviewed scores of ex-combatants from Vietnam suffering from PTSD. This was a labor of tears and love. Would like to be in Afghanistan. The fire is still there until I try to run a few miles."

• OPC member **Paul E. Morgan** calls himself a "representative of the greatest generation in age and experience, if not in stature." From a professional career in public relations and marketing, working for corporations, government, himself and the military, Morgan writes vignettes about people from all walks of life in "Dial 'M' For Memories: Eavesdrops on Greatest Generation" [Xlibris]. Samples: Popular radio newscaster Elmer Davis never saw President Roosevelt once in Washington while directing the Office of War Information, the nation's propaganda arm in World War II. Famed Australian polio nurse Sister Kenny thought you could avoid infantile paralysis by wearing a hat when outdoors. Former Secretary of State Edward Stettinus, who spearheaded for-



Paul E. Morgan

Save the Date: OPC ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

Thursday, April 25
Grand Hyatt Hotel, New York City

mation of the United Nations to cure all wars, did not know the meaning of the word "panacea." Richard Nixon, when vice president, was almost killed in anti-U.S. riots in Venezuela after ignoring many warnings not to make a visit there.

ASIA

• **Jasper Becker**, who has covered China since 1985, explores China's accomplishments and problems in "The Chinese" [New York: Free Press]. *Foreign Affairs* called it "a superb book for anyone who wants to be updated on contemporary China." The author "systematically reviews all levels and dimensions of Chinese society, from the poorest peasants to local despots to elite politics. And he fully treats both the factors contributing to the success of economic reforms and the serious problems that remain."

• **Frances FitzGerald** covered the Vietnam War and wrote "Fire in the Lake: The Vietnamese and the Americans in Vietnam" that won a 1973 Pulitzer Prize for general nonfiction. Now she writes about a nation at peace in "Vietnam: Spirits of the Earth" [Bulfinch]. The book is a collection of photos made in rural villages by **Mary Cross**. *The New Yorker* commented that in her text, (Continued on Page 11)

OPC FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

BRIAN WILLIAMS
NBC Anchor

Guest Speaker

Thursday, January 24
at noon

Yale Club
52 Vanderbilt Avenue

Reservations essential
212-626-9220

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40 West 45 Street
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